



Superior Court of California County of Riverside

4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501

MEDIA ADVISORY

May 3, 2012

Contact: Barrie J. Roberts, Director of Alternative Dispute Resolution programs, Riverside
County Superior Court (951) 777-3157

(Electronic version available at:

<http://riverside.courts.ca.gov/media/media.shtml>)

NEW MEDIATION PANEL HELPS FAMILIES RESOLVE DIVORCE, CUSTODY, SPOUSAL AND CHILD SUPPORT DISPUTES WITHOUT COURT TRIAL

RIVERSIDE COUNTY: The Riverside County Superior Court is pleased to announce a new resource for families and couples facing family law disputes. The new Family Law Private Mediation Panel lists over 20 attorney-mediators countywide who are ready to help parties work out solutions to their divorce, custody, visitation, spousal and child support disputes without adversarial court hearings or trial.

The panel includes mediators who serve every area of Riverside County, including Blythe, Indio, Palm Springs, downtown Riverside, Hemet, Banning, Temecula, Moreno Valley, Corona and more.

The new panel was posted on the court's website today: <http://adr.riverside.courts.ca.gov/adr/fl/>
Also posted was a new web page filled with information about private mediation for family law cases: http://riverside.courts.ca.gov/adr/famlaw_privatemediation.shtml

According to Presiding Judge Sherrill Ellsworth, "Our family law judges strongly encourage parties to use alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, to resolve their disputes."

"Costly and stressful adversarial court hearings are rarely in the best interests of the children or the parents," said Indio Family Law Judge Dale Wells. "Mediation gives parties the opportunity to express their concerns in a safe and private environment. With the mediator's help, the parties can reach voluntary agreements that are custom-made for their particular situation."

And, Judge Jackson Lucky, Family Law judge in downtown Riverside points out, "Family law decisions are so important because they deal with children and family finances. The parties understand their needs better than anyone else. Mediation puts control where it should be: with the parties. It allows them to make the best choices for themselves, instead of hoping that a judge, who is a stranger, will make the right decisions for them."

All mediators on the court's Family Law Private Mediation Panel are attorneys with at least 5 years of family law experience in Riverside County. Many have had extensive training in family law mediation. Several are certified as Family Law Specialists by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization.

To schedule a mediation session with a member of the new panel, parties simply contact the mediator of their choice. Each panel mediator has posted an on-line Profile describing his or her background, contact and fee information, including whether reduced rates are offered.

To search for a mediator by name, visit:

<http://adr.riverside.courts.ca.gov/adr/fl/panelist.php>

To search for a mediator by case type, location, or fees:

<http://adr.riverside.courts.ca.gov/adr/fl/search.php>

- END -